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Arizona *Migrant Education Connection*

TO IMPACT TEACHING AND LEARNING IN K-12 CLASSROOMS SO THAT MIGRANT STUDENTS ACHIEVE HIGH ACADEMIC SUCCESS.

A Message from the State Migrant Director:

Welcome to the 2015-2016 school year! This is going to be a year of many firsts for the Migrant Education Program. We will be using a new Service Delivery Plan to direct our service for our students. Technology will be added to our already innovative ways of identifying and recruiting our migratory families. Our goal is to increase the identification of our Binational students and Out of School Youth while supporting their needs as they relate to the Service Delivery Plan. But the most important part of this year will be the learning that takes place for our students. This may take many different forms. Be open to the power of knowledge!

Our Migrant Education Office is always open for you to contact us as we support local school district administration, teachers, coordinators, recruiters, staff, our migratory students and families. May the words of Cesar Chavez resonate with each of us: "Students must have initiative; they should not be mere imitators. They must learn to think and act for themselves - and be free."

Have an outstanding school year!

Sincerely,

Mary Frances Haluska
State Migrant Director
Arizona Department of Education



Upcoming Dates to Remember

- September 16 - 18, 2015: AIFC Conference in Tubac, AZ
- November 5, 2015: ID&R / SMPAC Meeting in Phoenix, AZ
- November 17 - 19, 2015: MEGA Conference (Tucson, AZ)
- November 11, 2015: Veteran's Day Holiday (State Office Closed)
- November 26, 2015: Thanksgiving Day (State Office Closed)
- December 25, 2015: Christmas Day (State Office Closed)

The Close Up High School Program

The Close Up High School Program is a one-of-a-kind opportunity for students to experience their government in action. The students visited Washington's famous monuments, memorials, and institutions, as well as meetings with their Congressional delegation on Capitol Hill. Our students had a first-hand look at the American political system and considered what role they, as students, play in our democracy.

Throughout the week, our students explored Washington, DC and interacted with students from all across the country. With the help of the program instructors, students considered how the people and events represented in DC's memorials impacted their life today. Close Up helps students learn about US History and Government while considering a variety of viewpoints. This keeps students interested, informed, and engaged. The students are engaged in making personal connections with the famous places of the nation's capital.

Our students were face to face with Washington insiders that play a key role in the American political system. There were seminar panels which included lobbyists, journalists, and members of the Armed Forces. These instrumental political players took time to answer questions from students and explain how they impact government and policy. The program culminated with a banquet and dance, giving students the chance to unwind, say goodbye to their new friends, and reflect on what they learned during their trip.

The students this year had an extra special adventure. Dr. Lisa Ramirez, Director of the Office of the Migrant Education Program, along with her fourteen member staff met with our students in Secretary of Education Arnie Duncan's Office. What we thought was going to be a brief meeting lasted for over two hours. The students shared their life experiences; some happy and some sad. Dr. Ramirez and her staff were grateful for the visit as a reminder to each of them as to the challenges our migratory students and families face and how what they do each day in Washington, DC impacts the lives of our migrant community. No other group has had this opportunity.

It is truly an honor and privilege for me to chaperone the high school students and see Washington, DC through their eyes. I had the pleasure of sharing this responsibility with Francisca Guzman from Yuma Union High School District. We thank the families for allowing their children to take part in this learning experience. Thank you to the students for using this opportunity to learn and represent their Family, Arizona Migrant Education Program, the State and themselves in a positive way. Si, se puede!

Mary Frances Haluska
State Migrant Director



Arizona students and chaperones with Dr. Lisa Ramirez, Director of the Office of Migrant Education, in the US Department of Education Building.



Learning experience at the National Museum of American History.

CLOSE UP
WASHINGTON DC

The Close Up Middle School Program

This summer the Arizona Migrant Education Program sponsored twelve students from Yuma, Gadsden, Somerton, Glendale, and Crane with the amazing opportunity to participate in Close-Up Middle School Program in Washington D.C.

Close-Up participants spent time with fellow students and instructors exploring the habits and practices of active citizens. The Washington D.C. experience also included study visits at: National Archives, Smithsonian American History Museum, Capitol Hill, US Marine Corps Memorial, WWII Memorial, Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial, Lincoln, Korea, Vietnam Memorial, White House, Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, Capital Area Food Bank, DC Central Kitchen, Arlington National Cemetery, Smithsonian Natural History Museum.



Learning experience at the Smithsonian

On our final day, students were required to give us feedback about how the program would help them with their education and some of the student reflections were: “It will help me improve my confidence in participating in things, making friends, building self-confidence, and participating in community service.” “It will help me with my education because now I want to volunteer more in my community and help others.” Many of our students left with lasting impressions and we hope upon their return home they are motivated to become more civically engaged in their schools and communities.

Doreen Candelaria
Title I / Migrant Specialist



Learning experience at the Archive Museum



Space Camp Summer Program

This summer the Arizona Migrant Education Program sent seven lucky migratory students from Yuma Elementary, Crane, Queen Creek and Mesa Public Schools, to Huntsville, Alabama for Space Camp. Space Camp is a program designed to show the youth of today the possibilities that could lie ahead of them if they are interested in a career in Aviation, Science, Math, Astronomy, or Space Exploration. Learning the concepts of teamwork and group problem solving, the participants were challenged to use innovation and out of the box thinking to solve several challenges. They learned that by working together in an unfamiliar situation they could achieve their goal. Teamwork, leadership, and analytical thinking are concepts that these young students can apply throughout their lives.



Dave Anderson
Title I / Migrant Specialist



Join us for the 20th Annual AIFC Conference!

When: September 16-18, 2015

Where: Tubac Golf Resort & Spa, Tubac, AZ

Website: <https://goo.gl/O3tGHw>

Sessions include:

- The 1st SMPAC Meeting for the 2015-2016 School Year
- MEP Coordinators and ID&R Meeting
- Binational Education
- Rights and Services for Homeless and Migrant Children and Youth
- Migrant Health Centers
- DES Updates
- Legal Resources
- Leadership Development
- Civic Education
- And More!

Professional Development Spotlight

Arizona Department of Education offers a full calendar of workshops/trainings, please visit our Calendar of Events (<https://ems.azed.gov/Home/Calendar>) for class details and registration. Here is a selection of upcoming professional development opportunities that could be useful to you:

8/24/15 **Using Mathematical Tasks to Develop Conceptual Understanding of Number K-2:** This training will examine how young children develop conceptual understanding of number by working on meaningful daily tasks. Mathematical practices and AZCCRS will be imbedded throughout the day.

8/27/15 **FY16 ESEA Application and Monitoring Review:** The Highly Effective Schools division offers full-day, free, regional workshops on the development and implementation of FY1516 NCLB ESEA Consolidated Application. The purpose of this training is to review the ESEA Application with the intent that the applicant will be able to submit the application and receive approval upon the first submission.

8/31/15 **Making Sense of ILLPs and Mathematics (Grades 6-12):** This webinar is intended for departmentalized mathematics teachers providing Oral English Conversation and Vocabulary instruction to students on an ILLP. Guidance will be shared on how to select performance indicators from the English Language Proficiency Standards that connect to mathematics lesson.

9/8/15 **K-2 Writing Foundations Webinar Series:** This one hour K-2 Foundational Writing Overview webinar is the beginning of a series of four webinars designed to outline the major components and elements of a solid K-2 foundational writing program.

9/21/15 **Special Engagement: Using Socratic Seminar to Meet AZCCRS with Diana Green:** Socratic Seminar is a deep analysis of works of quality and substance by a group of students facilitated by a teacher.

10/1/15 **Teaching Reading Effectively:** Participants Must Attend All 5 Days. This course is strongly aligned to the AZ College and Career Readiness Standards - ELA: Foundational Skills (K-5), Reading Standards for Literature and Informational Text (K-5) and Language Standards (K- 5).

10/12/15 **Text Complexity:** In this one hour web-in-hour overview of text complexity participants will examine the three components of text complexity; quantitative measures, qualitative measures and the reader and task considerations.

Migrant Education / Special Projects

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District Spotlight

Yuma Union High School District
Jessica Mickish, Federal Programs Director
Migrant Education Program
11 August 2015

Migrant Summer Lunch Program

On Tuesday June 2, 2015, the Yuma Union High School District Migrant Education Program (MEP) partnered with Student Nutrition Services to create a mobile Summer Food Service Program. This program provided lunches at 5 parks in the communities of Somerton and San Luis, AZ.

For 8 weeks during June and July, 2-school buses went into these communities to serve free lunches to children 18 years old and younger, provide books for children to read and check out, and provide Wi-Fi access via Jet Packs. During these 8 weeks, 5,776 free lunches were served, and 135 books were checked out and returned - this number does not reflect the number of books read while children were on the buses eating their lunches.

Additionally, staff from the Migrant Education Program, Student Nutrition Services, and Transportation department were hired after completing their regular school year contracts. Having experienced so much success in our first year of this partnership, the MEP and Student Nutrition Services will continue their collaboration to plan for the 2016 summer.

-Jessica Mickish

